

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-37 were pending and rejected. In this response, no claim has been canceled or added. Claims 1-37 have been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim, in full, clear, concise, and exact terms, the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. The support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification and drawings, particularly, pages 18-19, 22-23, 25-28, 30-31, and 35-36. No new matter has been added.

Claim 31 is objected under 37 CFR 1.75(c). In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the objection has been overcome.

Claims 10, 11, 13-15, 17, 18, 20, 35, 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable by Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425. Claims 12, 16, 19, 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(e) as being unpatentable over Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425 and in view of Bertin et al, US Patent No. 6,400,681. Claims 30, 31, 33 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425 and in view of "Official Notice". Claim 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425 and "Official Notice" and in view of Bertin, US Patent No. 6,400,681. Claims 1, 3-5, 21, 23-25, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425 and in view of Bertin, US Patent No. 6,400,681 and Anerousis et al, US Patent No. 6,760,775, (Anerousis hereinafter). Claims 2 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425, Bertin et al, US Patent No. 6,400,681 Anerousis, US Patent No. 6,760,775 and in view of "Official Notice". Claims 6-9, 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Iwata, US Patent No. 5,933,425, Bertin, US Patent No. 6,400,681 Ancrousis, US Patent No. 6,760,775 and in view of Gupta et al, US Patent No. 6,584,075, (Gupta hereinafter).

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the cited references, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the limitations set forth in claim 1-37. In addition, for some of the claims, the Examiner relied on the alleged "official notice" and 3-4 different references to render a claim obvious without providing support, suggestion, and motivation to combine these references. It is respectfully submitted that such a combination is an impermissible hindsight based on Applicant's own disclosure. Therefore, claims 1-37 are not anticipated by and are patentable over the cited references.

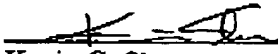
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

Date: March 14, 2005


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